

Title	TB (Isolates)
Specimen Requirements	<p>Submit a pure culture, preferably on an LJ slant or other appropriate media.</p> <p>Petri plates will not be accepted.</p>
Sampling Materials	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pure culture growing on LJ slant, one slant per patient. 2. Shipping boxes or containers with appropriate shipping labels. MTB Complex isolates must be shipped Category A, Infectious Substances. 3. Completed ISDH request form or LimsNet cover page.
Procedural Notes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Handle all isolates of MTB Complex, or those suspected of being MTBC, at a biosafety level 3. 2. Be sure to properly label the sample with at least the patient's name and date of collection. 3. Check the expiration date on the media to ensure product is acceptable and will continue to be acceptable once received at the ISDH laboratory. 4. Confirmation testing is performed by HPLC or PCR, and drug susceptibility testing is performed on newly identified MTBC patients. 5. Complete the ISDH request form, ensuring that the patient information on the sample matches the information on the form. Request form must also include submitter and physician name/address, patient date of birth, sex, county of residence, anti-mycobacterial therapy, date of collection, specimen source, and testing being requested. 6. Alternatively, complete a LimsNet entry for the patient, including the same patient information as for ISDH form. 7. Specimens lacking completed information will not be tested.
Shipping Instructions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. If an isolate is a known member of the Mycobacterium tuberculosis complex, or if highly suspected to be in this group, then the isolated must be labeled and shipped as a Category A Infectious Substance, and must be packaged in accordance with all federal shipping regulations. 2. Complete the Shippers Declaration for Dangerous Goods Documentation and include at least three copies on the outside of the package. 3. Tighten the specimen culture tube cap. Wrap tape around the tube cap to help prevent any leakage of the sample. 4. Wrap this primary container with absorbent material. Place the primary container and absorbent material in the inner mailing container (secondary packaging) and tighten the cap securely. 5. The completed request form may be then wrapped around the sealed inner container and together enclosed securely in a rigid outer shipping container clearly labeled with the sender's and recipient's name/address and the name and phone number of the responsible party. Include a list of contents inside of the package. 6. The outside of the package must be clearly labelled with the Category A, Infectious Substance label, and with the designation "UN 2814 Infectious Substance, Affecting Humans" 7. Do not send culture isolates on Petri plates, as they are unacceptable for testing. 8. Isolates may be transported at ambient temperature.
Reporting and TAT	<p>Laboratory reports will be sent out via LimsNet or fax, and will be available within 1-7 business days.</p> <p>Cultures identified as Mycobacterium tuberculosis will be forwarded to the Michigan Department of Community Health for genotyping studies.</p>